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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/714,911

11/18/2003

Masatoshi Yamaguchi

032110

4005

38834

7590

04/01/2004

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EXAMINER

LEE, JOHN D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2874

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/714,911

Applicant(s)

YAMAGUCHI ET AL.

Examiner

John D. Lee

Art Unit

2874

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☒ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 18 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>11/18/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

The preliminary amendment filed on November 18, 2003, has been entered.

The drawings are objected to because of the following informalities. Individually labeled drawings of a particular figure should begin with the first letter of the alphabet so as to prevent confusion. Figures 2(d), 2(e), and 2(f) should therefore be relabeled as Figures 2(a), 2(b), and 2(c). Figures 6 and 7 should be labeled with a legend such as "PRIOR ART" since only that which is old is illustrated. Correction is required in response to this Office action. The drawing correction requirement will not be held in abeyance.

The specification is objected to because of the following informalities. On page 5, next-to-last line, the reference to "Fig. 1" should actually be to "Figs. 1(a)-1(c)". On page 6, line 2, the reference to "Fig. 2" should actually be to "Figs. 2(a)-2(c)". On page 6, line 7, the reference to "Fig. 4" should actually be to "Figs. 4(a) and 4(b)". Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any other errors of which applicant may become aware.

Claims 1-11 are allowed. None of the prior art of record in this application discloses or reasonably suggests an electrode structure comprising a substrate including a layer of fluorine-containing polyimide, a layer of fluorine-free resin formed on the polyimide layer, and an electrode formed on the resin layer.

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. U. S. Patent 6,054,971 to Okada et al describes (in Figure 4A) an electrode structure including a glass substrate 21, electrodes 22a and 22b, a layer of

fluorine-containing polyimide 24, and a resin layer 23. Note, however, that the arrangement of elements is totally different than that claimed by applicant.

All of the prior art documents submitted by applicant in the Information Disclosure Statement filed with the application on November 18, 2003, have been considered (to the extent possible) and made of record. Note the attached initialed copy of form PTO-1449. Neither of these two documents discloses or suggests an electrode structure having the features discussed in the immediately preceding paragraph.

This application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matters noted above relating to the specification and drawings.

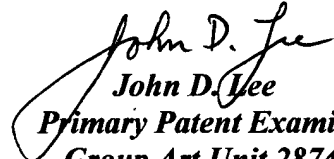
Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO (2) MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), the Examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR § 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the Examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Any inquiry concerning the merits of this communication should be directed to Examiner John D. Lee at telephone number (571) 272-2351. The Examiner's normal

work schedule is Tuesday through Friday, 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM. Any inquiry of a general or clerical nature (i.e. a request for a missing form or paper, etc.) should be directed to the Technology Center 2800 receptionist at telephone number (571) 272-1562, to the technical support staff supervisor (Team 8) at telephone number (571) 272-1564, or to the Technology Center 2800 Customer Service Office at telephone number (571) 272-1626.


John D. Lee
Primary Patent Examiner
Group Art Unit 2874